ADVICE

TO THOSE WHO ARE AFFLICTED WITH THE VENEREAL DISEASE.

CONTAINING

THE SYMPTOMS AT LARGE,

WITH PRACTICAL NOTES,

AND

ADVICE TO THEM WHILE UNDER CURE,

WITH

PROPER PRESCRIPTIONS FOR THE SAME.

ALSO,

METHODS of preventing any future INFECTION, in either Sex.

By F. B. SPILSBURY, MAN-MIDWIFE, &c.
THREE CROWN COURT, BOROUGH.

Nemo omnibus horis sapit.

SECOND EDITION, with ADDITIONS.

LONDON:

Printed for the AUTHOR, and sold by J. CATTERMOUL, No. 376, in *Oxford-Street*; SYMONDS, in *Paternoster-Row*; AXTELL, *Royal Exchange*; and J. BARKER, *Russel Court, Drury-Lane*. 1790.

[PRICE ONE SHILLING.]

[*ENTERED AT STATIONERS-HALL.*]

BOSTON MEDICAL
AUG 8 - 1927
LIBRARY

1. Mk. 417

PREFACE.

As this is written for the benefit of persons who are afflicted with the Venereal Disease, *in all its various stages, for the regulation of their diet, and conduct on any emergency that may happen, when it is not in their power to apply to their surgeon, I have not given any anatomy of the parts, nor entered into the minutiæ of the disease, more than is necessary for restoring or guarding the constitution; but in this edition, I have added the origin, with practical remarks, which has made it near double the size; the advantage of this, in preference to the other, will be easily seen when compared; to which is added, useful remedies, that may at any time be made up at the druggist or apothecary's: the reason of adding them was, the frequent complaint I had from correspondents in the country, of the disorder increasing before they could have the answer to their letters for advice; others have complained, they did not wish it to be known, and fearful of sending to a stranger; others, they did not chuse to employ their usual apothecaries or surgeons; in two instances of these (whether it was from shame or obstinancy) from delay, the persons were nearly ruined. How many poor simple females, through fear*

and

and ſhame, keep this horrid diſeaſe to themſelves, till it has preyed on their bloom, and poiſoned the reſt of their days. Others, who have been deceived by villains, and left ignorant, to their unhappy fate, have attributed it to other cauſes, till, hydra-like, it aroſe in various ſhapes, and, when too late, they have been told of their dreadful ſituation. Parents, the guardians of their young, ſurely cannot be too careful to whom they truſt their beloved offspring, for fear of having the ſeeds of the horrid poiſon planted in their tender frames; but there does not want inſtances of this; nor of innocent perſons receiving it from a ſalute. The remedy has, ſometimes, been worſe than the diſeaſe, where ignorant pretenders have had the impudence to aſſert cures they never made, have drawn into their ſnares the unwary, drained their pockets, and what is worſe, their conſtitution. It is for the benefit of the public in general I write, that the unfortunate may have ſome friendly admoniſher; to prudent perſons, a guard; and to libertines, methods of preventing injuries; by which means, I am in hopes poſterity will be benefitted. This was my ſole intention, and as ſuch, ſhall leave it to a generous public to judge for themſelves.

BOSTON MEDICAL
AUG 8 - 1927
LIBRARY

ADVICE

TO THE

Afflicted with the Venereal Diſeaſe.

ITS ORIGIN.

ABOUT a century ago, there were great diſputes as to the original of the venereal diſeaſe, which employed the pens of different nations, not which ſhould have the honour of firſt introducing it, but to throw the ſtigma on each other; thus we attribute it to the French; the French to the Neapolitan; the Neapolitan to the Spaniſh; and the Spaniſh to the Indian—though I firmly believe it began when whoring did: but numbers avowed, that Columbus was the firſt who brought it from the Americans, in the years 1494-1496, and gave it to the Spaniards, from whom it ſpread through Europe. The moſt powerful argument in favour of this, is to be found in Aſtruc; but for my

part, being of a contrary opinion, I look upon it to have being miſtaken for a leproſy, and as ſuch, has been called by that name. What was there in the conduct of the Jews, to preſerve them againſt its attacks? nothing but the ſtrictneſs of their laws; for as ſoon as they perceived the leaſt ſymptom appear, he was baniſhed ſociety, as we find on peruſing the 13th, 15th, and 20th chapters of Leviticus, where we find the ſtrongeſt ſymptoms. Job complains of it, the Royal Pſalmiſt complains of a ſore running in the night, and the 38th Pſalm is a complete hiſtory of the diſeaſe—The wiſe man in Proverbs, ſpeaking of a lude whore, ſays, "With her much fair ſpeech "ſhe cauſed him to yield, with the flattering "of her lips ſhe forced him, he goeth after "her ſtraitway as an ox goeth to the ſlaughter, or as a fool to the correction of the "ſtocks; till a dart ſtrike through his "liver——as a bird haſteth to the ſnare, "and knoweth not that it is for his life," Pov. vii. 21, 22, 23. The fartheſt back that we can trace it is, John Arden, ſurgeon to Richard the Second, who wrote on this diſeaſe, and defines it, a burning, an inward heat, an excoriation, and he directs lenient injections of women's milk with a little oil of violets; alſo,

alſo, almond milk, for the ſame purpoſe. In antient records we find, that in 1376-98, public ſtews and brothels were tolerated under certain regulations, one of which thus runs:

Item. That no ſtewholder keep any woman within his houſe that hath any ſickneſs of brenning, but that ſhe be put out upon pain of making a fine unto the Lord of 100 ſhillings.

Jane the Firſt, Queen of both the Sicilies, and Counteſs of Provence, drew up ſtatutes for the regulation of ſtews eſtabliſhed at Abignon, in 1347, the 4th article runs thus:

The Queen commands, that on every Saturday, the women of the houſe be ſingly examined by the abbeſs, and a ſurgeon appointed by the directors; and if any of them has contracted any illneſs by their whoring, that they be ſeparated from the reſt, and not ſuffered to proſtitute themſelves, for fear the youth that converſe with them ſhould catch their diſtemper.

The laſt article I cannot help giving here, not that it is of any conſequence to the diſeaſe, but for the peculiarity.

Article IX. *Item.* Let the abbeſs admit no Jews into the brothel, and if any one finds means, by ſtealth, to gain admittance, and lay with any of the wenches, let him be impriſoned for this offence, whipped publicly through the ſtreets of the city.

Shakeſpeare mentions the ſtews, as well as the diſeaſe, in the 2d part Henry the Fourth, Act I. Scene II.

———— Where's Bardolph?

Pag. He's gone to Smithfield, to buy your worſhip a horſe.

Fal. I bought him in Paul's, and he'll buy me a horſe in Smithfield: if I could get me a wife in the ſtews, I were mann'd, hors'd, and wiv'd. Alſo in ſcene IV.

Fal. If the cook help to make gluttons, you help to make diſeaſes, Dol.—we catch of you, Dol.—we catch of you; grant that, my poor virtue—grant that.

Dol. Aye, marry our chains and our jewels.

Fal. Your broches, pearls, and owches—for, to ſerve bravely, is to come halting off, you know: to come off the beach with his pike bent bravely; to ſurgery bravely; to venture upon charg'd chambers bravely.

BOSTON MEDICAL
AUG 8 - 1927
LIBRARY

For numbers of years this diſeaſe was the terror of Europe, and thoſe that had it were baniſhed to remote places till cured; they thought the deſeaſe infectious from the breath, or laying in the ſame bed; various remedies were tried, but none permanent till mercury was found its antidote; but at firſt, the uſe of this was worſe than the diſeaſe, they ſinking under ſtrong ſalivations; they again returned to guaicum and ſarſaparilla, but without ſucceſs, and were obliged at laſt to return to mercury; which, after various trials and preparations, was found to anſwer beſt when adminiſtered in ſmall doſes, without injuring the conſtitution. It may be obtained three ways, viz. *Firſt*, By impure connection—*Secondly*, By contact of parts*.—*And laſtly*, Hereditary. In its firſt ſtage it is called the

* Midwives ought to be exceſſive careful to have no cuts or ſores on their fingers, as numbers of caſes have occurred, where they have obtained a confirmed lues by the contact of parts. Turner ſeems to make light of a gentleman who aſked him, if it was poſſible for a man to get the diſeaſe, "*intrudenda "digitum in ſinum pudoris mulieris iſto morbo laborantes et illum "aliquam diu ibi continuando.*" He anſwered him, it was not, though the gentleman complained of a pain extending up the arm. I ſhould anſwer the ſame, if there was no wound on the finger; but on the contrary, there is every thing to fear.

the Gonorrhœa, or Clap*; in the ſecond, the Confirmed Pox, or Lues Venerea; and that every one may know when they have obtained this horrid diſeaſe, and to what ſtage they have advanced, I ſhall lay down every ſymptom as they occur.

GONORRHŒA, † ITS SIGNS.

It in general makes its appearance on the third or fourth day after connection; the firſt ſymptoms are an agreeable ſenſation in the genital parts in general, and the teſticles have a creeping worm-like motion, which ſtimulates to venery; and now the extremity of the urethra is inflamed, and ſtands open; next a gradual diſcharge comes on, which moſtly glews up the paſſage; firſt a limpid thin humour, which increaſes until it comes to a ſharp, ſtinking, purulent

* What is commonly called the Dry Clap, is when there is no diſcharge, with difficulty of making water; from the increaſe of the ſwelling and inflammation an iſchury, or total ſuppreſſion of urine, is the conſequence.

† I believe the gonorrhœa to be merely a local complaint; the lues venerea, conſtitutional. This is proved in the hoſpitals every day; for if a patient ſhould go through a ptylyſmis, or ſpitting, and contract a gonorrhœa during the cure, the conſtitutional diſeaſe would be removed, but the local continue.

rulent matter, and colours the linen yellow, green, and ſometimes with ſtreaks of blood; the parts inflame, and now great pain is felt in paſſing the urine, like ſo many needles; this increaſes to ſuch a height, that the patient dreads to make water; and from the pain and fear he does not let it flow, but paſſes it in jerks: his phyſiognomy at this period is very unfavourable*, and the occaſion muſt be exceedingly preſſing before they will make a repetition. The miſery is now increaſed by a chordee † (a peculiar venereal ſpaſmodic complaint) *i. e.* the penis becomes frequently erect in a diſagreeable manner, curved downwards, with exquiſite pain; the urine is of a high colour, from a deep ſaffron to ſmall beer, it diminiſhes in quantity as it advances in colour, and increaſes in acrimony; and when the running is very ſmall, the urine is highly fœtid. In thoſe that have long foreſkins, it inflames, is puffed up, and ſometimes will ſcarcely admit the

* This is called a dyſuria, an inflammable ſymptom: young people at the firſt time, have it worſe than others; but through fear they ſhould never hold their water long, the bladder by this means is diſtended beyond its proper tone, bringing on dreadful ſymptoms, and perhaps at laſt, obliged to have the urine drawn off.

† So called from its ſimilarity to a cord binding down the penis.

the urine from the increaſe of the inflammation; the lymphatic ſyſtem is obſtructed, and the prepuce becomes œdematous, of great bulk and weight; if proper care is not here taken, a ſchirrous or mortification will take place, and in this caſe, as it cannot be drawn back, it is called a phymoſis; in thoſe that are ſhort, it contracts, and ſwells up behind the nut, ſometimes to endanger the patient's life, and is named a paraphimoſis*. Near the frænum are two glands, called glandulæ oderiferæ, which ſecrete a fluid, and ſometimes in ſo great a quantity in thoſe having a natural phymoſis, that it is confined under the prepuce, producing inflammation, and even ulceration of the glands penis, with appearances, as if the patient had the venereal diſeaſe, for which it has been treated, when nothing more than waſhing the parts well, and keeping them clean, is neceſſary to procure relief; this frequently will happen to boys under twelve years of age.

From

* I have known it to ſwell and contract till the inflammation increaſed and ſtopt the circulation in the nut, by which means a mortification came on, and they have loſt this part.

From the inflammation, deep corroding ulcers* now appear, called chancres†.

IN WOMEN.

It makes its appearance in about three or four days; the patient feels a pleasing irritation, which soon degenerates into pain; a prickling shooting sensation within the parts, which inflame and swell, is sore and painful; the vagina contracts, and coition is at this period dreadful from the irritation, the clitoris becomes erect, and like the prepuce in men, is sore and painful; the urine is hot and scalding, that the patient dreads to make water; she feels a contractive‡ and painful

* Venereal ulcers are always known by their being jagged at the edges, and running in different ways, with a slough-like appearance.

† The first appearance of a chancre is not unlike the thrush in the mouths of children. Parents cannot be too careful who suckle their children, as they may obtain this disease from a small chancre on the nipple, or on the breast of the nurse; nor can youth be too careful who they salute, as prostitutes frequently have ulcers on their lips, tongue, &c. Whenever these appear, even in the slightest manner, we should consider it as the confirmed pox, and treat it under that head.

‡ From the inflammable attack of the virus in women, there is a peculiar constriction towards one side or the other in

 the

ful ſenſation in the lower part of her body, with a creeping motion within the ſides about the hips, dull pains acroſs the back. The diſcharge is at firſt ſlime; then thin, watery, ſharp, fœtid, bloody; and at length, becomes a deep green.

BUBOES

In this ſtage, will ſometimes ariſe, either from ſudden colds, or the virus being repelled by improper treatment.

At firſt, the notice of the patient is attracted by a pain in the groin, and upon examination he finds a ſmall lump, the ſize of a pea; there is no inflammation externally, but, after handling, the part becomes more painful, and increaſes to the ſize of a nut; is more ſenſible, throbs, the body is enflamed, a ſlight fever comes on, univerſal laſſitude, pains in the limbs, headach, thirſt, &c. ſtill increaſing to the ſize of a pigeon's egg, becomes inflamed, matter forms, and it is now at its maturity.

HERNIA

the vagina, which anſwers to the chordee in men. They alſo ſometimes have œdematous ſwellings in the labia, which burſt, cauſes chancres, &c. the ſame as the phymoſis in men.

HERNIA HUMORALIS, OR SWELLED TESTICLE

Makes its approach with a painful worm-like motion in one or both teſticles; the running abates, and frequently ſtops; they ſwell and inflame; dull, heavy, burthenſome pains come on, with ſudden twinges and ſtitches extending into the loins; they now become a painful load; a fever ſucceeds, and the criſis is at hand, by either ſuppuration, gangrene, or cancer.*

LUES VENEREA, CONFIRMED POX, OR SECOND STAGE,†

Is uſhered in by venereal excreſcences, or warts, which make their appearances about the private parts; they are neither hard nor ſoft, open, moiſt, or dry; they put on forms like pin-heads, or ragged at bottom; ſome are pendant, others like cock's comb, or mulberries. The firſt ſymptoms the patient feels, are an

 irregular

* When the pain and inflammation in the teſticles abate, the running returns; if the inflammation runs high, it is then that bleeding plentifully is of ſervice; alſo purging, fomentations, emetics, &c. which muſt be left to the ſurgeon's care.

† Women may have the dry or latent pox for a length of time in their habit, as long as their menſtrual diſcharges continue; but the moment theſe ceaſe, the whole frame falls into confuſion.

irregular intermitting fever, pain in the head, arms, legs, knees, great laſſitude and dejection of ſpirits; the pain increaſes, eſpecially at night; and when warm in bed, it is paſt bearing, nor can they get any ſleep, till towards the morning*; the head grows heavy, ſometimes with a dull pain fixed in one ſpot, like a nail drove in by degrees; ſmall lumps ariſe on the ſcull, arms, legs, and thighs (nodes) which become painful, and torment the patient alternately; the ſkin is altered by plain ſpots, not projecting, of a roſe colour, purple, yellow or livid; ſometimes diſtinct, ſmall, and circular; ſometimes broad and ſpreading: Scurfy places appear in different parts of the body, face, eyebrows, and forehead; gradually increaſing till it

* I have obſerved in the hoſpitals, patients labouring under nocturnal pains from a venereal cauſe, that when they have had no reſt for a month, &c. before they came into the venereal ward; they have not been in the ward above two days, before they have generally good nights, owing to the minute particles of mercury floating in the atmoſphere they breathe. A cramp frequently attends, increaſing the pain and horrors of the diſeaſe. A ſciatic, or hip gout, is ſometimes the effect of the venereal diſeaſe; as alſo the lumbago are fellow tormentors. When the virus attacks the membranes, and muſcles, a venereal rheumatiſm is the conſequence;—if the ſtomach, vomiting, loſs of appetite;—if the bowels, a venereal diarrhæa; inflammatory, cholicky gripings ſucceed, with many cutting and fœtid ſtools;—the lungs, aſthma—the heart, palpitations, &c. &c.

it invades the hair, which it encircles (the crown of Venus, and by the French le chapelet) and ſpreads over the whole by degrees, it affects the other parts of the body, where the hair falls off, it becomes ſmooth, and produces baldneſs; before this happens, the hair changes white, the eye-lids are thickened, rough, red, exceſſive itching, watery, great inflammation of the coats, dimneſs of ſight, the globe contracts, the humours are puſhed forward, and water continually running from the coats; the ears are corroded and filled up with ſcabby ſtinking matter, the eruptions increaſe, the lips become ſore, and crack; the mouth and noſtrils are now infected, and run a thick iſchor; the ſkin becomes rough, and covered with branny ſcales; the eyes are dull, heavy, red, ſtaring; the face becomes bloated, the neck ſtiff, the mouth ſore, the cheeks fiery, the noſe ſwells, is diſtorted, and ſtuffed with ſcabs; the tongue enlarges, the throat is ſore, the hairy ſcalp is now covered with cruſt, and loſes its natural colour; the hands ſwell, the nails grow thick and drop off; the voice changes, has a ſonorous ſound, and the language is unintelligible; the lungs depreſſed, the mouth ſtiff and open, the breath loathſome and fœtid, and the mind filled with wretchedneſs and deſpair. To cloſe this

this horrid ſcene, the burning pains increaſe, a heavy pulſe, univerſal weakneſs, dimneſs of ſight, hiccup, ſtranguary, difficulty of ſpeech and reſpiration, the nodes break open, the ſcaly ſcalp cracks, the noſe and throat is corroded, the teeth drop out, the breath is inſupportable, and the whole fabric is now a maſs of ſtinking carrion, if the malady continues, till limb from limb drop off, the vitals are attacked, and the unhappy ſufferer expires; the putrid carcaſe is hurried to the grave, offenſive to all.

Having thus far given the hiſtory of the diſeaſe, from the beginning to the end, that every one may know how to avoid thoſe who are unfortunate enough to have any of the above appearances, I ſhall now proceed to give advice to thoſe who labour under its baneful influence; but one caution is here peculiarly neceſſary, and which is thus mentioned by Dr. Friend, "There is one remarkable thing which often attends this diſeaſe, and which, indeed, we find in no other; that perſons who have once been infected with it, though never ſo well cured, take it into imagination, they are ſtill under the power of the diſeaſe, thinking himſelf in continual danger, the very reverſe to what

" what we ſee in a conſumption; a ſmall pim-
" ple, or ach in the bone terrifies them to death,
" and they frequently fall a prey to petenders
" in medicine." This, which is a diſeaſe, is much harder to cure than a real venereal complaint in its worſt ſtages. Turner mentions two remarkable caſes of this kind. I have given this note, that thoſe who have had it, may not terrify themſelves at every fooliſh appearance.

ADVICE WHILE UNDER CURE.

On the firſt appearance of the diſeaſe, let me enjoin you to temperance, ſoberneſs, and chaſtity; three moral virtues here indiſpenſibly neceſſary. Your diet* muſt be moderate, and roaſt meat is preferable to boiled; beef and mutton, to veal or lamb; the former is more eaſy of digeſtion; but mutton is the eaſieſt of all. Avoid ſpices, or high ſauces; for, as it is in its firſt ſtage a topical inflammation, every thing which increaſes the circulation of the blood will promote the diſeaſe; conſequently all exceſſive exerciſes muſt be avoided; ſuch as riding on horſeback, leaping, jumping, &c.

*. Neither purging nor a low diet are neceſſary in the cure of the gonorrhœa; draſtic purging will increaſe the inflammation.

&c. You may drink wine, but beware of intoxication, or you will ſuffer the next day ſeverely. Though at this time Venus attracts your thoughts, yet pay no homage at her ſhrine. In ſhort, eat when you are hungry, but in ſmall quantities; let your drink be moderate, and be ſatisfied when your thirſt is quenched. The paſſions of the mind have here great influence; avoid them; they irritate the diſeaſe; and when indulged to exceſs, have been known to bring on alarming ſymptoms. I muſt lay particular ſtreſs on cleanlineſs*, eſpecially in the fair ſex; who are more ſubject to chancres than men, and ought to be particular in frequent lavations, for without this, the diſeaſe rapidly increaſes, from the corroding virus lying on the parts, or hid in the folds, by which means the irritation is increaſed, and conſequently the inflammation will extend, bringing on chancres, buboes, &c. (A bubo may ariſe ſoley from irritation, without any venereal virus, as is ſometimes the caſe, from injury of the parts;) which, in many inſtances, by timely care, might have been avoided; and to this end, always waſh the parts with a little milk and water two or three times a day; or, what

* A ſpecies of lues venera prevails in the weſt of Scotland, which the natives call Sibbins, or Sivvins, owing to uncleanlineſs.

what is better, apply the following injection:

℞ Calomel ʒij

Aq. Roſar: ʒijj. Mf. inject.

and between the folds put a little lint, which change every time. Thoſe who in the firſt ſtage uſe injections, ſhould retain them in the parts as long as poſſible; and the beſt way is to preſs behind the glands, before the ſyringe is drawn; to let it come away immediately is of very little ſervice. (Syringes with long pipes, cannot be too carefully uſed, for if they be not very ſmooth, and paſs very eaſily, they may injure the internal parts of the urethra, and may by that means pox the patient) By improper uſe of aſtringent injections * the running at firſt is frequently ſtopped, and the unhappy ſufferer thinks he is cured, till, alas! appearances too ſoon inform him of his fatal miſtake. On the contrary, injections that are ſerviceable, at firſt increaſe the diſcharge; your

* Aſtringent injections are ſuch as the vitriol, alum, and the preparations of lead. About ten or fifteen drops of the extract of lead, in four ounces of ſoft water, are ſometimes neceſſary to waſh the parts when a paraphimoſis takes place; it acts as a ſedative, and will abate the inflammation; but ought to be ſparingly uſed. Thoſe who cannot immediately apply to a ſurgeon, ſhould uſe the calomel injection, keep the body gently open, and drink large quantities of linſeed tea, till the ſcalding is abated, and take one of the opium pills, mentioned page (27).

body ſhould be kept moderate, neither bound nor looſe. If you find a painful ſenſation in your groin, or teſticle, and at this time it is not convenient to apply for advice, ſuſpend the ſcrotum in a bag and rub it with a little mercurial ointment mixt with camphor; but when I mention mercurial ointment, I mean that which is not prepared with turpentine, but the quickſilver killed only in lard.—— When it is prepared with turpentine, it generally excoriates, and raiſes pimples on the parts where the friction is; but by this means it is nearly avoided. The ſame by the buboe; but remember, in the latter, rub rather below the part, that the lymphatics may carry it through the glands. There are ſometimes buboes that withſtand every application, which neither increaſe nor decreaſe, theſe, I think, are more of a ſcrophulous nature; the electric ſhock paſſed through them is of infinite ſervice: but if they ſtill increaſe, apply a poultice of bread and milk, mixt with the blue mercurial ointment, which, in general, will carry them off, or relieve till you can get aſſiſtance. If a phimoſis comes on, ſoak the part in milk and water, ſyringe the glands with the calomel injection frequently, after which, put up a little lint round the nut with a probe or ſkewer. If the phymoſis has been

been ſome time, is enlarged, and becomes œdematous, rub on it the mercurial camphorated ointment, which, in a few days, is generally ſufficient to ſubdue it; but on the contrary, if it is obſtinate, and threatens mortification, have one grain of opium* made into a pill, and take one or two a day, and foment it with wormwood and chamomile, as warm as you can bear it; at the ſame time continue to throw up the calomel injection; you may add two or three large poppy heads to the fomentation; as to the quantities of the others, it is of no ſignification; a handful or two of each, to two quarts of water is ſufficient. When the ſymptoms abate, a white bread poultice, with a ſmall quantity of mercurial ointment will haſten the cure; at this time, gently open your body with a little Glauber ſalts. When ſymptoms of ſo dangerous a nature appear, apply immediately for the beſt advice; what I have here ſaid is, that you may ſtop its progreſs, and this is the moſt effectual means. The paraphimoſis treat the ſame; but always have your ſurgeon's aſſiſtance, eſpecially in the latter, as delays here would be injurious.

* Opium, in ſmall doſes, has been found the beſt remedy in mortification; in the hoſpitals I have ſeen amazing effects from it.

Chancres, which are almoſt ſure to be where there is a phymoſis, ſhould be healed as ſoon as poſſible, as by expoſing the ſurface to the air, abſorption takes place, and a complete pox enſues. The beſt method to check them is, to apply a ſmall quantity of calomel, and a little dry lint over all; if this is not poſſible, throw up the injection; which will, in general, carry them off; but when they are obſtinate, add a little white vitriol with the calomel, which is found to anſwer every intention. In ſome ſluggiſh conſtitutions, they will require, as well as buboes, a doſe or two of mercurial purges. I would always adviſe, as long as any ſcalding continues, to drink plentifully of linſeed tea, or to eat gum arabic; theſe mucilaginous ſubſtances will abate the acrimony of the urine. If any hard knot or ſchirrous tumours ſhould ariſe, they ſometimes cannot be diſperſed, and the knife muſt be had recourſe to; before this is uſed, I would try every poſſible means, and when I have almoſt deſpaired of any cure, have frequently ſucceeded, by rubbing them with ſtrong mercurial ointment and camphor, joined with a ſmall quantity of volatile ſpirit of ſal ammoniac, and confining ſome of the ſame on the

the parts. Another ſymptom attending this ſtage is a chordee; no pleaſant companion; but it is ſoon removed, by rubbing the part with a little ointment, and applying a plaſter of the ſame upon it.

There certainly is no occaſion to bring the buboe to ſuppuration, giving the patient unneceſſary pain and trouble; I do, and always think it adviſable to ſuppreſs them, eſpecially at the beginning, as they frequently ariſe from irritation, which cauſes inflammations in the glands, and hence obſtructions. I muſt here aſk the gentlemen of the faculty, if abating the inflammation, leſſening the irritation, and by any means removing the obſtructions, can pox the patient? On the contrary, I think, letting it proceed to ſuppuration, and expoſing a ſurface to the air, is the moſt likely means in the world. [I knew a worthy practitioner in the country ſo bigotted to the idea of a ſuppurated buboe curing the diſeaſe, that after he had applied his cauſtic, he ſeldom took any further notice of it.] But if the patient applies too late, and ſuppuration is at its height, I ſeldom open them in men—in women, never. Whoever uſes a lancet for this purpoſe, ought never

to

to uſe it for any other operation, or bleeding, as it always cauſes a bad arm. if any one has had that misfortune, the mercurial ointment is the beſt application. If an opening is required, I gauge the lancet between my finger and thumb, and by drawing the ſame acroſs the buboe, from left to right (*et vice verſa*, as occaſion may require) open it with eaſe and ſafety; by this means the patient is not frightened with the knife, nor tormented with the cauſtic.—The dreſſing cannot be too ſlight; and for the firſt day or two apply a poultice of white bread and milk mixt, with a little mercurial ointment over all; this takes off the callous edges, ſo much complained of when the knife is uſed.

Buboes, ſometimes by ill treatment, or a bad habit of body, become phagedenic, *i. e.* when the lips of the wound are hard, looſe, and for the ſpace of an inch do not adhere to the ſurface of the ulcer; underneath this a probe may be paſſed; all round there is a livid appearance, it diſcharges a thin fluid very different from the true pus. Some practitioners have been induced to give mercury at this time, while ſuppuration is going on, and likewiſe after matter has been evacuated, which will irritate, inflame, and produce a truly phagedenic ſore;

ſore; when this is the caſe, I would recommend the bark and ſarſaparilla; the patient at the ſame time ſhould have a milk and vegetable diet, with country air. There is no medicine that ſo ſpeedily removes the effects of mercury, as ſarſaparilla given in powder or decoction, and bark will ſtrengthen the ſyſtem. After this treatment has been uſed for ſome time, and the ſore brought into a good ſtate, it will be apt to ſpread, and break out again, from being affected by the venereal matter returning, when mercury muſt be had recourſe to, but with a great deal of caution. If the ſore ſhould again have phagedenic appearances, mercury muſt be deſiſted from, and the bark and ſarſaparilla taken as before; and when at a favourable ſtate, the mercury again continued. Theſe kind of ulcers are the moſt difficult to cure in all ſurgery; outward applications ſhould be mild; the beſt is a white bread poultice.

Having thus far given you cautions, I will now proceed to a more pleaſant ſubject, namely, ſymptoms of an approaching cure; which are, when the ſcalding abates, the diſcharge thickens, the green appearance gradually vaniſhes, yellow ſucceeds, till at laſt it is white, and does not ſtain the linen, and may now be

called

called a common gleet, which is removed by balſamic medicines, freſh air, and moderate exerciſe; to which I will add, frequent topical cold bathing*. Thoſe who have had a violent gonorrhœa of long ſtanding, are oftentimes ſubject to an involuntary diſcharge of ſemen, without any ſenſe of pleaſure or pain; it comes from them in ſmall quantities, when they walk, or do any violent exerciſe, or go to ſtool, and when bound, by hard ſtraining, comes from them the more plentifully; if this ſtillicidium increaſe to any degree, or is perpetual, the parts become inactive, looſe their tone, and the whole ſyſtem is debilitated; the appetite for venery is loſt, the erections are of ſmall duration, and the conſequence conſumption; here the advice above given, joined with bark, is worth attending to.

The ſureſt ſign of the gonorrhœa being cured is, if, upon preſſing the urethra, a drop or two of lympid liquor, like that of whites of eggs is diſ-

* The parts are always, after a gonorrhœa, relaxed, or lame; and nothing is more conducive to reſtore the tone of the fibres than topical cold bathing; what I mean by this is, to pour a bottle of cold water on the parts as ſoon as you riſe in the morning; this ſome call cabbaging.

diſcharged*. If from ill treatment, or neglect, the urethra is filled with carnoſities, or calloſities, ſo as to obſtruct the paſſage of urine†, then bougies become abſolutely neceſſary.—When there is much uneaſineſs incurred by their uſe, never employ them but when you can lie in bed, or can confine yourſelf to your room; but in many, the diſtreſs is ſo trifling, that they can walk eaſily with the largeſt ſized bougie in the urethra; as to the time of uſing them, it muſt be regulated by their effects, which again muſt depend on the nature of the obſtructions, and ought to be continued till the water flows eaſily. When the diſtreſs is very

* This is well known to every courtezan, and I believe is the ſureſt proof of a perſon being free from the firſt ſtage of the diſeaſe.

† Where there are ſtrictures in the urethra, the urine is divided into two ſtreams; and there is always matter on the bougie where the ſtricture or ulcer is. A bougie will ſometimes cauſe a chordee in an healthy perſon; but, as above, it is the moſt painful at the part affected; they come on gradually, and are, for the moſt part, in the middle of the canal; on diſſection, they appear like a white line, extending round. Strictures are not always owing to a venereal cauſe, they may ariſe from laceration, or diſeaſed contraction of the parts, nor are they confined to particular places, as they are ſometimes in the oeſophagus, gullet, or alimentary canal, &c.

great, they ought not to remain long in the urethra, and be uſed once in two or three days, two in a day is ſufficient, one in the morning, and one in the evening; the running will continue as long as the bougie is uſed. If, in introducing the bougie, you find a ſtopage, do not puſh on, but twiſt it gently round; always be careful to tie a piece of thread round the top, bind and faſten it gently round the nut; for inſtances have occurred, where a bougie has ſlipt into the bladder; this cannot be extracted but by cutting as for a ſtone; nor can ſurgeons be two careful who makes their candles, as they are ſometimes found in two pieces, and have ſeparated in the urethra, paſſed into the bladder, and there formed a nucleus for a ſtone, which Mr. Cheſelden ſhews in his Treatiſe.

Though thus far I have treated it as a ſimple inflammation, and ſuppoſed it to be cured on that principle; yet always take ſome alterative medicine*, to guard againſt any lurking miſchief;

* Mercurials, in ſmall doſes, are the beſt alterative medicines; and during their courſe, I would adviſe the following diet drink:—Take of ſaſſafras chips four ounces, ſarſaparilla two ounces, guaiacum ſhavings three ounces, mezerion root,

chief; for I am certain too great ſecurity here, or relying on the words of boaſting pretenders*, has, in the end, been the ruin of many; for the diſeaſe lying dormant for a number of years, has afterwards broke out in the various forms above-mentioned, which, had they taken ſome alterative medicines, would never have happened. Where this is the caſe, alteratives are the ſpeedieſt and ſafeſt cure; they act without injuring the ſyſtem, and, joined with cleanlineſs, never fail in the moſt con-

 firmed

root two drams; pour on theſe three quarts of boiling water, and when cold, it is fit for uſe; a gill four or five times a day. The following is an alterative that may be depended on, and thoſe who have it not in their power to apply to a ſurgeon immediately, can not do better than have immediate recourſe to it.

℞ Merc. calc. gr. ſs.
Opii. gr. ¼
Conſ. Roſar. q. ſ. Mf. Pilul.
Hora ſomni ſumend.

and this ought to be continued as circumſtances require; however about twelve ſhould be taken.

* It is become the faſhion, in modern quackery, to adverti ſe to cure without taking a ſingle grain of mercury. True; ſo I am ſatisfied it is frequently done; but if there be one out of a hundred that have any virus left in the conſtitution, it ought to induce them to take a few ſmall doſes. I am certain it is from this our hoſpitals are ſo crowded—from this lurking miſchief breaking out at a diſtant period in various forms, well deſerving the name of Hydra.

firmed pox. But never take your medicines on an empty ſtomach, their effects are by this means nauſea, ſickneſs, vomiting, languor and debility of the ſyſtem. Mercurials in particular have very diſagreeable effects, let the doſe be ever ſo ſmall, but when taken with, or after food, the irritation on the coats of the ſtomach is leſſened, and it diffuſes itſelf with the chyle in a regular manner. I know it is cuſtomary, even to take common ſalts faſting; but thoſe who once act the contrary, will never be perſuaded again to proceed in the ſame manner. The firſt thing to be thought of, is frequently cleaning the teeth, and gargling the throat, change of linen, waſhing the body, and beware of catching cold. If any ſcaly eruptions appear, waſh them with bran and water. The common warm bath here is of the greateſt utility; but immediately when you come out, well chafe yourſelf with a coarſe cloth till you glow again; after this, dreſs, and refreſh with a glaſs of old generous wine; leave not the bathing-room too ſuddenly, but wait till you are perfectly cool. For warts, clip them off with a pair of ſciſſars, and apply the oitment over them; but if they again riſe, touch them with the cauſtic. If your throat, or noſtrils are affected, uſe the fumes of

mercury*,

mercury*, or apply immediately to your ſurgeon. If nodes ariſe, rub them every night with the ointment; keep the body temperate; and, in ſome caſes, it is adviſable to wear a flannel jerkin and drawers next the ſkin.—When you find all the ſymptoms abate and vaniſhed, leave not off your medicines too ſuddenly; as is often the caſe in this diſeaſe, either from fear of expence, or idleneſs, which often turns to account in the ſurgeon's pocket. If the eyes are affected, they are ſoon inflamed, itch, &c. I always found the following, the moſt ſimple and uſeful application, and when uſed in time, perhaps may ſave the loſs of ſight:

℞ Merc: Sub: Cor: gr. i
Aq: Diſtil: ℔ij Mf. Lotio.

the eyes are to be waſhed three times a day with the above, after which, I would adviſe a courſe of bark, exerciſe, change of air, and cold bathing, to take off the irritability the diſeaſe has cauſed in the ſyſtem.

Before this advice is cloſed, I ſhall give a few hints on the uſe of mercury.

* The beſt method of applying mercury in fumes, is to put ten or fifteen grains of cinnabar on a hot iron, drawing the ſmoke into the throat, or up the noſe, twice a day, through a funnel. Turner recommends, where there is a great number of venereal warts, this fumigation, and gives a caſe where, by this means, a woman was cured, whoſe poſteriors were almoſt covered with them.

In the firſt place, I do not agree with ſalivation, even in the worſt of caſes. A patient may have a ſalivation, though not intended by the ſurgeon, as from catching cold, which increaſes the irritability of the ſyſtem, when, perhaps, they have not taken above ten grains of mercury; electricity increaſes the action of mercury amazingly. I once had a patient perfectly ſalivated with only eight grains of calomel, once every night, and electricity twice a day. It is from this imprudence, that this ſacred medicine has been thrown aſide; a medicine which, when adminiſtered with caution, is not injurious to the human frame; on the contrary, expel it from the Materia Medica, how many millions would ſuffer from the ſcurvy, gout, rheumatiſm, yaws, bilious complaints, &c.? It ſhould be given in ſmall doſes, without any perceptible action. In this manner, what are its effects? it increaſes the action of the lymphatic ſyſtem; the conſequence is, the glands, before obſtructed, have now a free circulation, the offending virus is abſorbed, and thrown off by the pores of the ſkin, urine, ſtool, &c. the blood is purified, and the body reſtored to health. On the contrary, if too large a quantity is taken, a foul breath, rotten gums, carious teeth, &c. enſue;

enſue; the glands are irritated to ſecretions beyond their power, the appetite is loſt, the inteſtinal canal affected, the head ſwells, the tongue hangs out of the mouth, and ſaliva continually running from it; copious ſweats, and univerſal debility follow; at this period few come near him, from the offenſive ſmell. Suppoſe he ſtops here, and the diſeaſe is cured, how dearly is it paid for, when ſo ſafe a remedy is at hand? He lingers out the reſt of his life with a debilitated, irritable conſtitution.—— How many by this are brought to an early grave! From this cauſe ſalivation is now juſtly exploded.

To ſum up the whole, I would adviſe, that in the firſt ſtage of a gonorrhœa, or clap, the method of cure ſhall be to leſſen the inflammation and irritability of the ſyſtem; as by the calomel injection, diluting liquors, and the opium pills, to promote gentle perſpiration, by cordial diaphoretcs, as about thirty drops of the balſam of guaiacum, twice a day, to correct the acrimony of the fluids, and to protect the body from infection. The opium pills protect the body, by leſſening the irritability, and for fear of any lurking miſchief, I always adviſe a few of the alterative medicines, of which,

which, either the former, mentioned in page 35, or the following, is well adapted:

℞ Calomel: gr. i
Camph: gr. ij
Sulph: Aur: Antim: gr. iij
Conſ: Roſar. q. ſ. Maſ. Pilul.
Omni nocte hora ſomni ſumend.

Injections that will abate the inflammation, and if void of aſtringency, are preferable; they are applied to the part diſeaſed, and certainly will cure more ſpeedily than medicines taken by the mouth. With proper injections, where they have applied as ſoon as they have diſcovered the injury, I have completely cured in a few days, the moſt virulent gonorrhœa.—What medicines are taken internally ſhould be anti-inflammatory. After this, when the ſcalding is abated, the colour gone, a ſimple gleet only remaining, balſamics are the moſt proper; but, after all, it is prudent to guard the conſtitution by a few alterative medicines.——In the lues venerea, alteratives are what we muſt depend on; but when joined to balſamics, and others that will promote a gentle perſpiration, they are ſure of ſucceſs. By theſe principles I have always ſucceeded in the worſt of caſes; and weak debilitated habits, ariſing from exceſſes of any kind

kind whatſoever, by cordial tonic medicines, cold bathing, change of air, and exerciſe, are ſure to meet with relief.

I muſt here guard youth from that diabolical practice of machinery; ſo far is it from being a preſervative, that numbers have been poxed from too great a ſecurity. There is now another faſhionable vice, no leſs injurious in debilitating the ſyſtem, by forcing nature further than her ſtrength will bear, and bringing on a train of nervous complaints; I mean, whipping. I cannot help wiſhing, with Dr. Faulk, that fools who laſciviouſly uſe this exerciſe to ſtir up their luſt, might be ſwitched after emiſſion, as they endured it before; which would ſoon cure them of this diabolical practice.

ON PREVENTION.

In the firſt place, let us conſider by what methods this diſeaſe is to be prevented, which muſt be claſſed under three heads. Firſt, to throw off the virus: Secondly, to deſtroy it: and laſtly, to guard the conſtitution. It muſt be obvious to every one who has the leaſt delicacy, that cleanlineſs is the firſt principle,

and that waſhing the parts after connection, be it with what it will, muſt be one ground towards prevention; and when we conſider the various folds where the virus and mucus may lodge, and which, by this means are waſhed away, we ought not to hefitate a moment, but uſe theſe means firſt. To uſe means of prevention is very ancient, and on this ſame intent, we find Mr. Beckett quotes an old Engliſh author: John Gadiſons Roſa Angelica, ſpeaking of this diſeaſe, under the name of leproſy, he thus writes: "De infectione ex coitu le-
" proſi, vel leproſæ Primo (inquit) non tandum
" quod ille que timet de excoriatione, vel ar-
" ſurà virgæ, poſt coitum, ſtatim lavet virgam,
" cum aquà mixtà aceto, vel cum urina propria
" et nihil mali habebit." Speaking of the ulcers of this part in another place, "Si quis
" vult membrum ab omni corruptione ſervare,
" cum à muliere recedit quam forte habet
" ſuſpectam de immunditie, lavet illud cum aqua
" frigidà mixta cum aceto, vel urina propria,
" intra vel extra præputium;" and for women, he recommends the decoction, with red roſes in white wine. This is old, but ſound advice; as ſuch, I would wiſh you, after intercourſe with a ſuſpected perſon, always to waſh the parts with warm water, or ſoap and water, or

if

if not at hand, your own urine; and be careful to wash between the folds and around the glands.

To throw off the virus, must be by increasing the secretion, literally speaking, to bring on a simple gleet; this is a favorite method with numbers, and has sometimes its use, but this constantly irritating the urethra, in time, may injure it; those who are advocates for this method, sometimes throw up soap suds, with a syringe, which is the safest of these methods, though others recommend spirits, some to use a bougie, others a solution of sublimate, one grain to a pint of water. Leaving these methods to those who please to use them; I shall recommend that mentioned page (25)* which may be used with the utmost safety, without fear of any pain or danger; it will act as water, wash away the virus, without the disagreeable effect of the suds, or any other of the preparations above-mentioned; but it will destroy

* It is objected by some, that the use of it is dangerous; this I deny, it is perfectly innocent, and may be used with freedom, when properly prepared; but it is to be observed, that even water thrown up the urethra, will cause, at first, a disagreable sensation, though not like the calomel.

ſtroy the virus in every ſenſe of the word, it will no way injure the urethra, but on the contrary, if a ſlight gonorrhœa has taken place, it will cure without any further application. In women it is the beſt, eaſieſt, and ſafeſt remedy; not only here, but alſo in the fluor albus; it being thrown up the vagina three times a day, and the patient taking a little bark to ſtrengthen and brace the ſyſtem, nothing elſe is further required. By having this by them, they may at all times keep free from the diſeaſe.—— Some rub a ſmall quantity of blue mercurial ointment on the groin and parts; this too, like the other, is certainly deſtroying the infection in the bud, and adviſeable when the other cannot be procured; but there is one caution, always to have the calomel pure and mild: what I prepare for the purpoſe, and for private practice, undergoes a number of waſhings in lime water, &c, to take off every minute particle of acid.

FINIS.